

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 /071 W

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P R 070925Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3415

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN ETRD CH XM US

SUBJ: PRC CRITICIZES US TRADE BILL

SUMMARY: ON JANUARY 6 A PEKING NEWS ITEM STRONGLY CIRTI-
CIZED THE JUST-SIGNED US TRADE BILL, CALLING IT DISCRIMINA-
TORY, RETALIATORY, AND DESIGNED TO PRESSURE LATIN AMERICAN
AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF
PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENT ON THE BILL REGRETTING ITS
RIGIDITY AND UNFAIRNESS. END SUMMARY

1. NCNA ON JANUARY 6 DESCRIBED THE US TRADE BILL AS
DESIGNED TO EXERT PRESSURE ON LATIN AMERICAN AND OTHER
DEVELOPMING COUNTRIES WHICH ARE FIRM IN DEFENDING STATE
SOVEREIGNTY, AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC INTERESTS AGAINST
SUPERPOWER CONTROL AND PLUNDER, AND AS IMPOSING DIS-
CRIMINATORY AND RETALIATORY RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE WITH
THE US. SUCH RESTRICTIONS ARE THE PROVISIONS DENYING
PREFERENTIAL TRARIFF TREATMENT TO COUNTRIES IN OPEC,
THOSE IN OTHER RAW MATERIAL CARTELS, AND THOSE WHICH HAVE
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EXPROPRIATED US INVESTMENTS. NCNA CHARACTERIZED THE BILL

AS HAVING BEEN " RAILROADED THROUGH".

2. NCNA EXCERPTED LATIN AMERICAN CRITICISM OF THE ACT TO SUPPORT ITS CASE, QUOTING PRESIDENTS ECHEVERRIA OF MEXICO AND PEREZ OF VENEZUELA, THE ECUADOR GOVERNMENT, AND THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN, PERUVIAN, AND PARAGUAYAN EXPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS. IT CONCLUDES WITH QUOTES FROM SEVERAL LATIN AMERICAN EDITORIALS AND ARTICLES.

3. THIS ITEM IS THE THIRD RECENT STRONG ATTACK ON US POLICIES, THE OTHER TWO FOLLOWED THE PRC DEFEATS IN THE UN ON THE CAMBODIAN REPRESENTATION AND THE KOREAN ISSUES. THE PRESENT POLICY THEMES BUT ALSO DISPLAYS PRC SENSITIVITY TO THEMES FAMILIAR IN THE HISTORY OF US TRADE POLICY TOWARD THE PRC IN THE 1950'S , SUCH AS "OPEN ECONOMIC BLOCKADE" AND DISCRIMINATION.

4. USING THE OPPORTUNITY TO SCORE PROPAGANDA POINTS WITH THE THIRD WORLD, NCNA FAILED TO MENTION PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENT WHILE SIGNING THE BILL ON JANUARY 3 THAT HE REGRETTED THE RIGIDITY AND UNFAIRNESS IN THE BILL'S PROVISIONS, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

CROSS

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